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GEORGE H. KRESS, M. D., *Editor*

EMMA W. POPE, M. D., *Associate Editor*

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Editor GEORGE H. KRESS
Associate Editor EMMA W. POPE
Associate Editor for Nevada HORACE J. BROWN
Associate Editor for Utah J. U. GIESY

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Leaflet Regarding Rules of Publication.—California and Western Medicine has prepared a leaflet explaining its rules regarding publication. This leaflet gives suggestions on the preparation of manuscripts and of illustrations. It is suggested that contributors to this journal write to its office requesting a copy of this leaflet.

EDITORIALS*

GOVERNOR ROLPH SIGNS A. B. 477 (NIELSEN) FOR STATE MEDICAL LIBRARIES

California State Medical Library Bill (A. B. 477—Nielsen) Was Signed by Governor James J. Rolph, Jr., on June 9, 1931.—The date of June 9, 1931, is one which should have a place in the annals of the California Medical Association, for on that day Governor James J. Rolph, Jr., signed A. B. 477 (Nielsen), thus enacting into law the recent act of the legislature which provides for the institution and maintenance, under the University of California, of a state medical library having major branches at San Francisco and Los Angeles.

For this approval which Governor Rolph gave to the state medical libraries act, the people of the State and the medical profession also, have reason to be grateful. Such medical libraries should and no doubt will become real factors in the betterment of the public health in California and in the maintenance of high educational standards and activities.

In last month's (June) issue of this journal, page 417, a brief history of this particular legislative act was sketched. To those who were giving special attention to the measure, it was a great relief when Governor Rolph attached his signa-

ture to A. B. 477, and our thanks are extended him for giving his approval to the measure.

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Text of the Bill Is Printed in This Number of California and Western Medicine.—The full text of that act, for the convenience of those readers who are interested, is printed in the Miscellany department of this number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE (page 68).

Details concerning the institution of these state medical libraries cannot be given at this time, because the act will not become operative until September 9, 1931, after which time President Robert G. Sproul of the University of California will no doubt call his advisory committee together to discuss ways and means whereby the largest and most efficient type of service may be instituted.

* * *

The State Library Act Also Provides for "Exhibits."—A perusal of the measure will indicate its broad scope. The library work can be carried on not only through books and other publications but through "exhibits." In other words the educational activities, insofar as medical and public health education are concerned, are not solely restricted to books and publications. In our present day and for the future, such latitude is especially desirable; and in this instance it is hoped will work out to definite advantage in public health work. Exhibits which can be used in the education of members of the medical profession, can be made valuable also to members of the lay public, if properly presented. As Doctor E. Starr Judd of the Mayo Foundation, in his this year's presidential address to the American Medical Association (*Journal American Medical Association*, June 13, 1931, page 2007) stated:

"The idea of medical education for the public is not a new one, but the importance of it is more fully realized now than it was in former years The consensus among members of the medical profession generally is that some sort of publicity should be supplied by which the public will be made to understand the nature, the purposes and the results of the efforts made by scientific medicine for prevention and control of disease."

A library exists for the better dissemination of human knowledge, and since exhibits of scientific studies promote the dissemination of such knowledge it is possible that the provision of exhibits in the California State Medical Library Act may be productive of much good.

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Major Function of the State Medical Libraries Will Be to Provide a "Package Library Service."

—So far as the editor knows, it is not the intention to use any of the fifty thousand dollar appropriation for the erection of buildings, because the University of California fortunately can utilize some of its present housing facilities. Nor probably will it be deemed desirable to have reading rooms in San Francisco and Los Angeles, since such reading room facilities are quite ample at the University of California, Stanford and the

* Editorials on subjects of scientific and clinical interest, contributed by members of the California Medical Association, are printed in the Medicine Today column which follows.